IF YOU COULD PICK *ONE WORD* TO DESCRIBE YOURSELF, MISTER MUNDY, *WHAT WOULD IT BE?*

ER. WELL...

I'M GOING TO ANSWER THAT FOR YOU: *"VICTIM."*

OF THE EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM.

OF THE ROLE SOCIETY HAS *SHACKLED* YOU WITH AS AN AUSTRALIAN, OF COURSE.

AND LET'S NOT FORGET THE CURRENT ADMINISTRATION, WHICH...

TEUFORT
"America's Gravel Basket"
Pop. 1280

VROOOOOOOM

WAIT, BACK UP. WHAT'D THESE FOLKS DO TO ME AGAIN?

FORCED YOU TO BE A *KILLER.*

FOR THE *LAST TIME,* MATE...

I'M A *PROFESSIONAL.*

EXACTLY. A VICTIMIZED PROFESSIONAL KILLER.

AN ASSASSIN.

TAK

A MURD

TAK TAK TAK TAK TAK TAK TAK TAK

ERANGED
HOPATH.

LET ME IN, MISTER MUNDY.

HOW DO THESE WORDS MAKE YOU *FEEL?*

LIKE CHOKING THE LIFE OUT OF YOUR BODY, YOU BLO

OH, LOOK!

WE'RE *HERE!*

FOOM
CH-CHOOOM
RATTA TATTA
BOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOM
PAK PAK
TATTA
BLAM BLAM BLAM
WELL, LET'S GET TO WORK.
YOU COMIN', FANCY PANTS?
YOU HAVE A *DISEASE*, MISTER MUNDY.
DON'T ASK ME TO ENABLE IT.
I'LL WAIT IN THE *VAN*.
SIGH
RIGHT.
REMIND ME WHY WE'VE GOT TO TALK TO THIS HALF-WIT AGAIN.
IN A WORD: PR.
THE ADMINISTRATOR SEES THIS AS A PERFECT OPPORTUNITY TO SHOW THE GOOD PEOPLE OF BADLANDS YOU'RE *NOT* JUST ARMED PSYCHOPATHS BLOWING UP ALL THEIR LANDMARKS ON A DAILY BASIS.

I SEE THIS AS A PERFECT OPPORTUNITY, MISS PAULING, TO SPY ON THE ARMED PSYCHOPATHS WE'RE PAYING TO ***BLOW EACH OTHER UP*** ON A DAILY BASIS.

THIS ***DIRECTOR'S*** THE PERFECT DUPE.

HE'S TOO STUPID TO DIVINE OUR REASONS FOR COMMISSIONING HIM.

TOO ARROGANT TO ***LISTEN*** TO ANYTHING OUR MERCS ARE ACTUALLY ***TELLING*** HIM.

AND HE RECORDS ***EVERYTHING.***

IS ALL OF THIS SURVEILLANCE ***NECESSARY?***

MOST OF THESE MEN'S IQS ARE ***SUB-NORMAL...***

PLUTONIUM ISN'T ***SMART,*** MISS PAULING.

THAT DOESN'T MEAN IT WON'T ***KILL*** YOU IF YOU DON'T KEEP TABS ON WHERE IT IS AND WHAT IT'S DOING AT ALL TIMES.

I WAS GIVEN YOUR FILE.

LET'S TALK ABOUT YOUR CHILDHOOD.

YOUR FATHER WAS A COUNTER-REVOLUTIONARY.

WHEN HE WAS KILLED, YOU, YOUR MOTHER AND YOUR SISTERS WERE DEPORTED TO A NORTH SIBERIAN GULAG.

PAINT ME THE PICTURE.

NO.

THIS IS MY GUN.

I LIKE TO SHOOT THIS GUN.

IS ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW.

YOUR FAMILY ONLY LIVED IN THAT GULAG FOR THREE MONTHS.

IN DECEMBER 1941 IT BURNED TO THE GROUND.

ALL OF THE PRISONERS HAD ESCAPED.

ALL OF THE GUARDS HAD BEEN KILLED.

TORTURED TO DEATH.

I.

LIKE.

TO SHOOT.

THIS GUN.

IS ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW.

FINE.

TELL ME ABOUT THE GUN.

SHE WEIGHS ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY KILOGRAMS AND FIRES TWO-HUNDRED-DOLLAR CUSTOM--

...MORE OF A *MENTOR* TO THE REST OF THE TEAM, YOU KNOW?

I SEE HOW THEY COULD BE DOIN' THEIR JOBS BETTER?

IT DON'T MATTER HOW BUSY I AM. I WILL DROP WHAT I'M DOIN' AND *TELL* 'EM.

AND *WHY?*

WE RAN OUT OF FILM FIVE HOURS AGO.

I'LL *TELL* YA WHY.

BECAUSE I'M A *TEAM PLAYER.*

PROBABLY THE BEST TEAM PLAYER ON THE TEAM.

WE RAN OUT OF FILM FIVE HOURS AGO.

THAT'S OKAY, YOU CAN GO BUY SOME. I GOT TONS MORE TA SAY.

WE'LL WAIT HERE FOR YA.

MAN, WHAT A JACKASS.

SO HOW *YOU* DOIN', MISS PAULING?

HEY, YOU EVER SEEN ME WITH MY SHIRT OFF?

CUZ IT IS *AWESOME.*

NO. I DON'T THINK SUN TZU WROTE ***ANY*** BOOKS ABOUT PUNCHING THROUGH A MAN'S RIBCAGE.

HUH. TELL YOU WHAT I'M GOING TO DO, THEN: STOP MAKING THREATENING PHONE CALLS TO THE BOOK STORE.

COME HERE. I WANT TO SHOW YOU SOMETHING A MAN OF LETTERS LIKE YOURSELF WILL APPRECIATE.

TADAH!

HEADS!

--EVERYONE ON THE RED TEAM, MA'AM.

OH, YES.

I THINK WE'VE GOT ***MORE*** THAN ENOUGH.

"DID YOU THINK WE WOULDN'T SEE WHAT WAS *REALLY* HAPPENING?"

"NOBODY ASKS A *TRAINED KILLER* QUESTIONS LIKE THAT UNLESS THEY'RE AN IDIOT..."

...OR THEY'RE *UP* TO SOMETHING.

SO NOW *WE* ARE ASKING THE QUESTIONS.

I WOULD *STRONGLY URGE* YOU TO ANSWER THEM.

SNIPER?

OH, I'VE GOT *QUESTIONS* ALRIGHT.

LIKE AIN'T IT A BIG BLOODY COINCIDENCE HOW *ONE WEEK* AFTER I TALK ABOUT ME MUM AND DAD IN AN INTERVIEW...

FNAP

SOME SOON-TO-BE-A-DEAD-MAN'S MAILIN' ME *PICTURES* OF 'EM?

I ALSO GET PICTURES IN MAIL.

OF MY HOME.

I WILL *FIND* THIS MAN.

I WILL *DESTROY* THIS MAN.

THAT'S YOUR GUN THERE?

YES.

IN A TINY BED. BESIDE *YOUR* BED.

YES.

THAT'S PRETTY EMBARRASSIN'.

YES. I MUST BUY SASCHA BETTER BED.

THAT IS NOTHING! LOOK WHAT I GOT IN THE MAIL!

I AM ALSO GOING TO DROP IT ON THE FLOOR LIKE ALL OF YOU DID!

TUNK

WHOSE... HEAD IS THAT?

MINE!

THE QUESTION IS, WHERE ARE THE OTHER SEVEN?

these are my heds

do not take m heds

FIRST OFF, GENTLEMEN, LET ME THANK YOU FOR SHOOTING *YET ANOTHER MESSENGER.*

AND WHEN YOU KILL THE MESSENGERS, THEY CAN'T RETURN THEIR *MINIATURE TELEVISIONS,* WHICH IT MAY SURPRISE YOU TO LEARN DON'T GROW NATURALLY ON THEIR CHESTS.

I HAVE TO *BUY* THEM.

SECONDLY, LET ME SOLVE YOUR LITTLE WHODUNNIT. *I* SENT YOU THOSE PHOTOS.

MY HEADS!

YES. I TOOK THE HEADS TOO.

REST ASSURED, THEY HAVE BEEN DESTROYED.

NOOOOOOOOO

THE *PHOTOS,* MISTER DOE.

YOUR HEADS ARE SAFE.

I MERELY WANTED TO ILLUSTRATE THE *DANGERS* OF DISCUSSING THE TERMS OF OUR CONTRACT.

WITH *ANYONE.*

GRANTED, THIS EXAMPLE IS *ABSURD...*

BUT IMAGINE IF *I* WERE SOMEHOW FORCED TO USE THE INFORMATION *I NOW HAVE ABOUT YOU...* *AGAINST* YOU.

IMAGINE SOME RIDICULOUS HYPOTHETICAL SCENARIO WHERE WE WEREN'T THE *CLOSE PERSONAL FRIENDS* I KNOW WE ARE.

WELL.

I THINK WE'VE WASTED ENOUGH TIME WITH FANTASTICAL YARNS.

I BELIEVE WE HAVE COME TO AN *UNDERSTANDING,* GENTLEMEN.

ENJOY YOUR EVENING.

A *MINE?*

SHE WANTS TO CONDUCT HER INTERVIEW IN A *MINE?*

SHE... PREFERS THE ACOUSTICS.

I SUSPECT YOU MISUNDERSTOOD HER. LIKE YOU MISUNDERSTAND *EVERYTHING.*

GOD, YOU'RE USELESS.

WELL, LET'S GET THIS FARCE OVER WITH.

HELLO?

HELLLOOO?

RINNNNNG

KEEP WALKING! SHE'S FURTHER IN!

PAST THESE WHITE CANVAS TARPS?

OO. PERFECT. STAND ON THOSE! I'LL BE RIGHT THERE!

PAULING.

DID IT WORK?

YEP. WALKED RIGHT IN.

GOOD. I TOLD YOU NOT TO WASTE TIME WITH AN ELABORATE BACK-STORY.

MANN CO.

OH YEAHHH!

CORPSE-GRADE QUICKLIME

I JUST HAD A PLEASANT CHAT WITH OUR MERCENARIES.

WE SHOULD HAVE ALL THE LEVERAGE WE NEED.

SHOULD I HOLD OFF ON YOUR "INTERVIEW"?

HE NEVER GOT A CHANCE TO TALK TO BLU.

NO, HE'S A LIABILITY. DO THE "INTERVIEW".

THEN GET BACK HERE AS SOON AS YOU CAN.

WE'LL NEED TO FIND SOME *NEW* DIRECTORS.

TO BE CONTINUED IN THE FIRST ANNUAL

SAXXY AWARDS